

2-15-1918

Letter: Wesley Bouslog to Opal Valentine Baker, February 15 , 1918

Wesley Bouslog

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"WITH THE COLORS"



Friday 2/15/18

Moi Machère or in English
my Dearest: ~

With plenty of mail to
cheer me up I am O.K. and
very cheerful this eve. I have
received this day 2 letters from
you, And a Valentine enclosed in
an envelope, 2 letters from Luther
some comical Valentines from
Luther and a letter from Miss
Lucas. The evening mail has
not been distributed yet.

Glad to hear of the milder
weather with you enjoying it.
Well I can not express the feeling
which possesses me when I learn
of the many boys who have a
preference for your company and
who must bow to your refusal.
As a man I never would have
the conscience and heart to
try win the heart of some girl

Which at the present was held by
some one in the service of his
country. I do not blame the boys
for asking but if they ever get
into military life and a thous
and miles from home, with a
duty to their friends at home ^{and}
the same to their country, they
shall then understand the joy
a soldier feels in having a
real faithful friend at home who
is interested in you. When they
see such as this they will then
have praise for the girl who
was true to the soldier, placed
at a disadvantage and will
praise the girl who refused
them her company. I know
the temptations which you have
are many probably far more
than my temptations. I know
both the boys you mentioned
in your letter. You are perfectly
welcome to go with them if you
choose to so pass your time.
I have never said that you
shouldn't and have always
left you to make your own



"WITH THE COLORS"



decisions as I always have felt that your judgment was reliable and trustworthy. You may like many but you can love but one. This I have found true after almost eight years. As I have always said many times in your presence I shall repeat again a thousand miles away, "Your way is mine." I am perfectly contented to know that you will continue to enjoy yourself in whatever way you choose. I am not so narrow minded as to think that you should not enjoy yourself for in a way your happiness is mine. The faith I have in you I safely feel shall never be betrayed. Let people say what they choose. I am not the one to condemn anyone on other peoples evidence but try to judge them according to what I would have

done had I been in their place.
Talk to whomever you choose and
spend your time as you see fit
and I assure you that your
decisions shall not be questioned
by me and also that such as
you may do will never be suffi-
cient for causing a break between
you and I. If it should you will
then be better off for you will
then have evidence that I am
not trust worthy of your confidence.

Let those who may condemn you
for your actions spend their time
and attentions to bringing this
war to a successful termination and
they shall have then done their
duty to mankind.

Your letters are always welcome
and pleasure beyond words to
express and your many valen-
tine cards were objects of interest
and appreciation. Every boy
in my barracks knows that
"Opal" is some friend of mine. We
know the name of each others girl
and as we see each other
reading a letter it is always



"WITH THE COLORS"



a chance for some remarks, Well what did Janice say? or some one else. Does she still love u? Such remarks are always in fun. One boy at noon said to the crowd: "Well, boys, Bouslog got all the mail, Hu sure must be some kid back in his home town, for they are surely wild over him." My cold is almost broken up.

I say you are some housekeeper, a natural endowment I am sure. Tell Louva Jane, Bernice and Genet "Hullo!"

Don't worry about Ruth for Hugh will take good care of her, also do not worry as to what Delta and her mother may think. Their idea of faithfulness is of a narrower kind than mine. Why should you worry as long as I am contented with what you do?

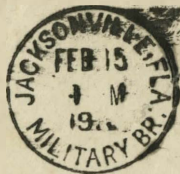
You said I should have a good
time on my money. Well I pos-
sibly could by doing so but what
would benefit would I derive
from doing so? I can easily tell
you. I would have nothing only
shame and the like to confront
me every time I recalled my
military experience. I am here
in the interest of humanity and
I shall be above all things
"a man and faithful to my
relatives and friends at home."

You shall have my picture but
without mustache. It was only kid-
ding fun when I said I was grow-
ing one. I never have had one
more than two days old since I
left Old Sulphur. The only
difference is that I am very much
tanned from what I was.

I shall write to Joe soon.
Bear in mind that whenever
I send you a present I never
think of it in the sense of
dollars and cents but I do it
for the pleasure I gain in so
doing. The boys are using their



"WITH THE COLORS"



Miss Opal Baker,
Sulphur Springs
Henry County, Indiana.

